

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application Claims 1 and 5-16, of which Claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Claims 2-4 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter. No claims have been added.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

Initially, there is accompanying this Amendment both a Request for Permission to Amend the Drawings and an Information Disclosure Statement.

In the aforementioned Request for Permission to Amend the Drawings and the above amendments to the specification, Applicants have sought to address the various objections to the drawings cited in the outstanding Official Action. Applicants respectfully traverse that portion of the objection to the drawings asserting that reference signs 0, S, c and d are not mentioned in the description. The Examiner is respectfully referred to page 51, line 1 which refers to reference sign S and to page 56, line 26, which refers to reference signs c and d. Regarding reference sign 0 in Fig. 6, it is Applicants' position that the 0 in Fig. 6 is not in fact the reference sign at all but merely an indication of the zero position on the graph depicted therein.

Applicants have also amended the title in the manner suggested by the Examiner and have amended the specification as appropriate to correct the informalities noted therein.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 4-9, 11, and 12 recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to incorporate

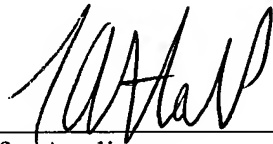
the subject matter of Claims 2, 3, and 4. As such, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 is in condition for allowance for reasons that Claim 4 was identified as being patentable over the art of record.

The remaining claims in the above application are dependent claims which depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 1 and are therefore patentable over the art of record for reasons noted above with respect to Claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding matters in the above application have been addressed and that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the above application are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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